

## The Indiana Department of Correction Makes Generous Holiday Donations

Indianapolis, Indiana (January 13, 2009) – This holiday season, Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) Commissioner Edwin G. Buss challenged all IDOC employees, and even offenders, to work to fill bare food pantry shelves, and the response from around the state was overwhelmingly generous.

IDOC facilities, both adult and juvenile, parole district offices, and central office all participated in the drive. At some facilities, offenders could participate by donating food items, and they also assisted with gathering the food items.



Miami Correctional Facility offenders box up the many food items to be donated to a local food pantry.

In all, over 8,500 food items were donated to food pantries and charities around Indiana by IDOC staff and offenders, and approximately \$3,000 in monetary donations was distributed. Miami Correctional Facility donated the most, by giving 1,368 food items to the Helping Hands Food Pantry and Salvation Army in Peru, IN, while New Castle Correctional Facility donated 1,230 items to the Westminster Community Center in New Castle, IN. Wabash Valley Correctional Facility came through in a big way by donating over 400 lbs. of food and \$760 to Our Father's Arms in Sullivan, IN.



Camp Summit students load food donations into a van for delivery.



Central Office also donated many items.



Wabash Valley donates boxes of food and money to a food pantry.



Parole District #8 and South Bend Community Re-entry Center joined forces for the food drive.

“I am extremely proud of the way that IDOC employees, and even some offenders, came together to provide food banks around Indiana with both food and monetary donations for the holidays. The generosity of all involved is impressive, especially in these tough economic times,” said Commissioner Buss.

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**Media Contact:**

Douglas S. Garrison

Chief Communications Officer

Phone: (317) 232-5780

[dsgarrison@idoc.in.gov](mailto:dsgarrison@idoc.in.gov)